

The Honorable Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks

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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraphs beginning on page 9, line 28 and ending on page 9, line 31 with the following paragraph:

-- if no, determine determined if U and A (and because of the equation U=1-A, also U)
converges to a constant value, (e.g., per operator preference [[-]] and to save
simulation time, [[or]] if U and A are changing so little after simulating an additional
link, or are already adequate enough to not warrant further simulation), by
convergence to a constant value, it is meant that the availability remains substantially
the same after an additional simulation including an additional link;
(10) At 60, if A converges to a constant convergence, end at 58; --